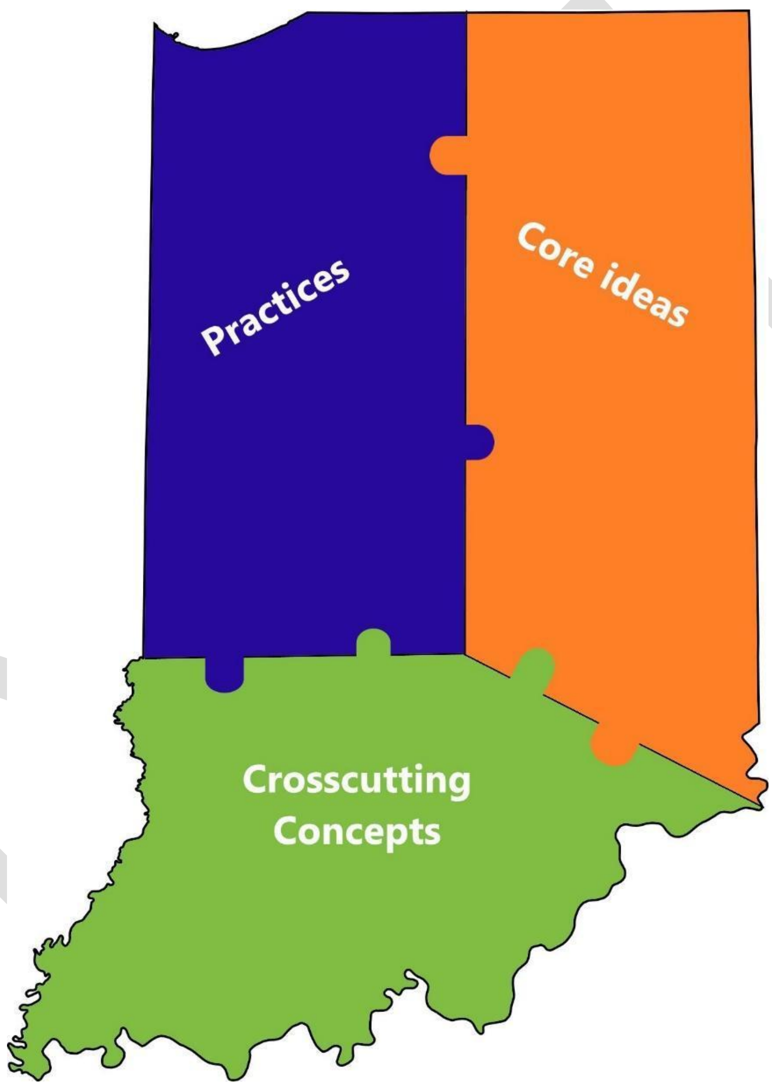
Indiana Academic Standards

Science



Grade 8

K-12 Science Indiana Academic Standards Overview

The K-12 Science Indiana Academic Standards are based on *A Framework for K-12 Science Education* (NRC 2012) and are meant to reflect a new vision for science education. The following conceptual shifts reflect what is new about these science standards. The K-12 Science Indiana Academic Standards

- reflect science as it is practiced and experienced in the real world,
- build logically from Kindergarten through Grade 12,
- focus on deeper understanding as well as application of content,
- integrate practices, crosscutting concepts, and core ideas.

The K-12 Science Indiana Academic Standards outline the knowledge and science and engineering practices that all students should learn by the end of high school. The standards are three-dimensional because each student performance expectation engages students at the nexus of the following three dimensions:

- Dimension 1 describes scientific and engineering practices.
- Dimension 2 describes crosscutting concepts, overarching science concepts that apply across science disciplines.
- Dimension 3 describes core ideas in the science disciplines.

Science and Engineering Practices

The eight practices describe what scientists use to investigate and build models and theories of the world around them or that engineers use as they build and design systems. The practices are essential for all students to learn and are as follows:

1. Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering)
2. Developing and using models
3. Planning and carrying out investigations
4. Analyzing and interpreting data
5. Using mathematics and computational thinking
6. Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering)
7. Engaging in argument from evidence
8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

Crosscutting Concepts

The seven crosscutting concepts bridge disciplinary boundaries and unit core ideas throughout the fields of science and engineering. Their purpose is to help students deepen their understanding of the disciplinary core ideas, and develop a coherent, and scientifically based view of the world. The seven crosscutting concepts are as follows:

1. *Patterns*- Observed patterns of forms and events guide organization and classification, and prompt questions about relationships and the factors that influence them.
2. *Cause and effect- Mechanism and explanation*. Events have causes, sometimes simple, sometimes multifaceted. A major activity of science is investigating and explaining causal relationships and the mechanisms by which they are mediated. Such mechanisms can then be tested across given contexts and used to predict and explain events in new contexts.
3. *Scale, proportion, and quantity*- In considering phenomena, it is critical to recognize what is relevant at different measures of size, time, and energy and to

recognize how changes in scale, proportion, or quantity affect a system's structure or performance.

4. *Systems and system models*- Defining the system under study—specifying its boundaries and making explicit a model of that system—provides tools for understanding and testing ideas that are applicable throughout science and engineering.
5. *Energy and matter: Flows, cycles, and conservation*- Tracking fluxes of energy and matter into, out of, and within systems helps one understand the systems' possibilities and limitations.
6. *Structure and function*- The way in which an object or living thing is shaped and its substructure determines many of its properties and functions.
7. *Stability and change*- For natural and built systems alike, conditions of stability and determinants of rates of change or evolution of a system are critical elements of study.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

The disciplinary core ideas describe the content that occurs at each grade or course. The K-12 Science Indiana Academic Standards focus on a limited number of core ideas in science and engineering both within and across the disciplines and are built on the notion of learning as a developmental progression. The Disciplinary Core Ideas are grouped into the following domains:

- Physical Science (PS)
- Life Science (LS)
- Earth and Space Science (ESS)
- Engineering, Technology and Applications of Science (ETS)

The K-12 Science Indiana Academic Standards are not intended to be used as curriculum. Instead, the standards are the minimum that students should know and be able to do. Therefore, teachers should continue to differentiate for the needs of their students by adding depth and additional rigor.

Why use the Framework for K12 Science Education as the basis for the revision of science Indiana Academic Standards?

- The framework and standards are based on a rich and growing body of research on teaching and learning in science, as well as on nearly two decades of efforts to define foundational knowledge and skills for K-12 science and engineering.
- Studies show that even young children are naturally inquisitive and much more capable of abstract reasoning than previously thought. This means we can introduce elements of inquiry and explanation much earlier in the curriculum to help them develop deeper understanding.
- The new standards aim to eliminate the practice of "teaching to the test." Instead, they shift the focus from merely memorizing scientific facts to actually doing science—so students spend more time posing questions and discovering the answers for themselves.
- Historically, K-12 instruction has encouraged students to master lots of facts that fall under "science" categories, but research shows that engaging in the practices used by scientists and engineers plays a critical role in comprehension. Teaching science as a process of inquiry and explanation helps students think past the subject matter and form a deeper understanding of how science applies broadly to everyday life. This is in alignment with the Indiana Priorities for STEM education.
- These new standards support the research by emphasizing a smaller number of core ideas that students can build on from grade to grade. The more manageable scope allows teachers to weave in practices and concepts common to all scientific disciplines — which better reflects the way students learn.
- It is important that each standard be presented in the 3-dimensional format to reflect its scope and full intent.
- Given that each standard is a performance expectation (what students should know and be able to do), the standards are presented with some accompanying supports including clarification and evidence statements.

How to read the revised Science Indiana Academic Standards

Standard Number	**Title**	The title for a set of performance expectations is not necessarily unique and may be reused at several different grade levels

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

Standard Number **Performance Expectation: A statement that combines practices, core ideas, and crosscutting concepts together to describe how students can show what they have learned** [Clarification Statement: A statement that supplies examples or additional clarification to the performance expectation.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Activities that scientists and engineers engage in to either understand the world or solve the problem. There are 8 practices. These are integrated into each standard. They were previously found at the beginning of each grade level content standard and known as SEPs. **Connections to the Nature of Science** Connections are listed in either practices or the crosscutting concepts section.	Concepts in science and engineering that have broad importance within and across disciplines as well as relevance in people's lives To be considered core, the ideas should meet at least two of the following criteria and ideally all four: • Have broad importance across multiple sciences or engineering disciplines or be a key organizing concept of a single discipline; • Provide a key tool for understanding or investigating more complex ideas and solving problems; • Relate to the interests and life experiences of students or be connected to societal or personal concerns that require scientific or technological knowledge; • Be teachable and learnable over multiple grades at increasing levels of depth and sophistication. Disciplinary ideas are grouped in four domains: the physical sciences; the life sciences; the earth and space sciences; and engineering, technology and applications of science.	Seven ideas such as Patterns and Cause and Effect, which are not specific to any one discipline but cut across them all. Crosscutting concepts have value because they provide students with connections and intellectual tools that are related across the differing areas of disciplinary content and can enrich their application of practices and their understanding of core ideas. **Connections to Engineering, Technology and Applications of Science** These connections are drawn from either the Disciplinary Core Ideas and Science and Engineering Practices.

Evidence Statements	
1	Evidence Statements provide educators with additional detail on what students should know and be able to do.
2	The evidence statements can be used to inform the scaffolding of instruction and the development of assessments.

MS-PS1-1 Matter and its Interactions

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-PS1-1. Develop models to describe the atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on developing models of molecules that vary in complexity. Examples of simple molecules could include ammonia and methanol. Examples of extended structures could include sodium chloride or diamonds. Examples of molecular-level models could include drawings, 3D ball and stick structures, or computer representations showing different molecules with different types of atoms.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Developing and Using Models

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to developing, using and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

- Develop a model to predict and/or describe phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS1.A: Structure and Properties of Matter

- Substances are made from different types of atoms, which combine with one another in various ways. Atoms form molecules that range in size from two to thousands of atoms.
- Solids may be formed from molecules, or they may be extended structures with repeating subunits (e.g., crystals).

Crosscutting Concepts

Scale, Proportion, and Quantity

- Time, space, and energy phenomena can be observed at various scales using models to study systems that are too large or too small.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Components of the model		
	a	Students develop models of atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures that vary in complexity. In the models, students identify the relevant components, including:	
		i.	Individual atoms.
		ii.	Molecules.
		iii.	Extended structures with repeating subunits.
		iv.	Substances (e.g., solids, liquids, and gases at the macro level).
2	Relationships		
	a	In the model, students describe* relationships between components, including:	
		i.	Individual atoms, from two to thousands, combine to form molecules, which can be made up of the same type or different types of atom.
		ii.	Some molecules can connect to each other.
		iii.	In some molecules, the same atoms of different elements repeat; in other molecules, the same atom of a single element repeats.
3	Connections		
	a	Students use models to describe that:	
		i.	Pure substances are made up of a bulk quantity of individual atoms or molecules. Each pure substance is made up of one of the following:
			1. Individual atoms of the same type that are connected to form extended structures.

		2. Individual atoms of different types that repeat to form extended structures (e.g., sodium chloride).
		3. Individual atoms that are not attracted to each other (e.g., helium).
		4. Molecules of different types of atoms that are not attracted to each other (e.g., carbon dioxide).
		5. Molecules of different types of atoms that are attracted to each other to form extended structures (e.g., sugar, nylon).
		6. Molecules of the same type of atom that are not attracted to each other (e.g., oxygen).
		ii. Students use the models to describe* how the behavior of bulk substances depends on their structures at atomic and molecular levels, which are too small to see.

MS-PS1-2 Matter and its Interactions

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-PS1-2. Analyze and interpret data on the properties of substances before and after the substances interact to determine if a chemical reaction has occurred. [Clarification Statement: Examples of reactions could include burning sugar or steel wool, fat reacting with sodium hydroxide, and mixing zinc with hydrogen chloride.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Investigations produce data that must be analyzed in order to derive meaning. Because data patterns and trends are not always obvious, scientists and engineers use a range of tools to identify the significant features in the data. They identify sources of error in the investigations and calculate the degree of certainty in the results. Advances in science and engineering makes analysis of proposed solutions more efficient and effective. They analyze their results by continually asking themselves questions; possible questions may be, but are not limited to: “Does this make sense?” "Could my results be duplicated?" and/or “Does the design solve the problem with the given constraints?”

Analyzing data in 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to extending quantitative analysis to investigations, distinguishing between correlation and causation, and basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis.

- Analyze and interpret data to determine similarities and differences in findings.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Scientific Knowledge is Based on Empirical Evidence

- Science knowledge is based upon logical and conceptual connections between evidence and explanations.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS1.A: Structure and Properties of Matter

- Each pure substance has characteristic physical and chemical properties (for any bulk quantity under given conditions) that can be used to identify it.

PS1.B: Chemical Reactions

- Substances react chemically in characteristic ways. In a chemical process, the atoms that make up the original substances are regrouped into different molecules, and these new substances have different properties from those of the reactants.

Crosscutting Concepts

Patterns

- Macroscopic patterns are related to the nature of microscopic and atomic-level structure.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:

1	Organizing data	
	a	Students organize data about the characteristic physical and chemical properties (e.g., density, melting point, boiling point, solubility, flammability, odor) of pure substances before and after they interact.
	b	Students organize the given data in a way that facilitates analysis and interpretation.
2	Identifying relationships	
	a	Students analyze the data to identify patterns (i.e., similarities and differences), including the changes in physical and chemical properties of each substance before and after the interaction (e.g., before the interaction, a substance burns, while after the interaction, the resulting substance does not burn).
3	Interpreting data	
	a	Students use analyzed data to determine whether a chemical reaction has occurred.

	b	Students support their interpretation of the data by describing* that the change in properties of substances is related to the rearrangement of atoms in the reactants and products in a chemical reaction (e.g., when a reaction has occurred, atoms from the substances present before the interaction must have been rearranged into new configurations, resulting in the properties of new substances).

MS-PS1-3 Matter and its Interactions

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-PS1-3. Gather and make sense of information to describe that synthetic materials come from natural resources and impact society. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on natural resources that undergo a chemical process to form the synthetic material. Examples of new materials could include new medicine, foods, and alternative fuels.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Scientists and engineers need to be communicating clearly and articulating the ideas and methods they generate. Critiquing and communicating ideas individually and in groups is a critical professional activity. Communicating information and ideas can be done in multiple ways: using tables, diagrams, graphs, models, and equations, as well as, orally, in writing, and through extended discussions. Scientists and engineers employ multiple sources to obtain information that is used to evaluate the merit and validity of claims, methods, and designs.

Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to evaluating the merit and validity of ideas and methods.

- Gather, read, and synthesize information from multiple appropriate sources and assess the credibility, accuracy, and possible bias of each publication and methods used, and describe how they are supported or now supported by evidence.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS1.A: Structure and Properties of Matter

- Each pure substance has characteristic physical and chemical properties (for any bulk quantity under given conditions) that can be used to identify it.

PS1.B: Chemical Reactions

- Substances react chemically in characteristic ways. In a chemical process, the atoms that make up the original substances are regrouped into different molecules, and these new substances have different properties from those of the reactants.

Crosscutting Concepts

Structure and Function

- Structures can be designed to serve particular functions by taking into account properties of different materials, and how materials can be shaped and used.

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Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

Interdependence of Science, Engineering, and Technology

- Engineering advances have led to important discoveries in virtually every field of science, and scientific discoveries have led to the development of entire industries and engineered systems.

Influence of Science, Engineering and Technology on Society and the Natural World

- The uses of technologies and any limitation on their use are driven by individual or societal needs, desires, and values; by the findings of scientific research; and by differences in such factors as climate, natural resources, and economic conditions. Thus technology use varies from region to region and over time.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:

1	Obtaining information		
	a	Students obtain information from published, grade-level appropriate material from at least two sources (e.g., text, media, visual displays, data) about:	
		i.	Synthetic materials and the natural resources from which they are derived.
		ii.	Chemical processes used to create synthetic materials from natural resources (e.g., burning of limestone for the production of concrete).
		iii.	The societal need for the synthetic material (e.g., the need for concrete as a building material).
2	Evaluating information		
	a	Students determine and describe* whether the gathered information is relevant for determining:	
		i.	That synthetic materials, via chemical reactions, come from natural resources.

		ii. The effects of the production and use of synthetic resources on society.
	b	Students determine the credibility, accuracy, and possible bias of each source of information, including the ideas included and methods described.
	c	Students synthesize information that is presented in various modes (e.g., graphs, diagrams, photographs, text, mathematical, verbal) to describe*:
		i. How synthetic materials are formed, including the natural resources and chemical processes used.
		ii. The properties of the synthetic material(s) that make it different from the natural resource(s) from which it was derived.
		iii. How those physical and chemical properties contribute to the function of the synthetic material.
		iv. How the synthetic material satisfies a societal need or desire through the properties of its structure and function.
		v. The effects of making and using synthetic materials on natural resources and society.

MS-PS1-4 Matter and its Interactions

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-PS1-4. **Develop a model that predicts and describes changes in particle motion, temperature, and state of a pure substance when thermal energy is added or removed.** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on qualitative molecular-level models of solids, liquids, and gases to show that adding or removing thermal energy increases or decreases kinetic energy of the particles until a change of state occurs. Examples of models could include drawing and diagrams. Examples of particles could include molecules or inert atoms. Examples of pure substances could include water, carbon dioxide, and helium.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Developing and Using Models A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models. Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to developing, using and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems. ● Develop a model to predict and/or describe phenomena.	**PS1.A: Structure and Properties of Matter** ● Gases and liquids are made of molecules or inert atoms that are moving about relative to each other. ● In a liquid, the molecules are constantly in contact with others; in a gas, they are widely spaced except when they happen to collide. In a solid, atoms are closely spaced and may vibrate in position but do not change relative locations. ● The changes of state that occur with variations in temperature or pressure can be described and predicted using these models of matter. **PS3.A: Definitions of Energy** ● The term “heat” as used in everyday language refers both to thermal energy (the motion of atoms or molecules within a substance) and the transfer of that thermal energy from one object to another. In science, heat is used only for this second meaning; it refers to the energy transferred due to the temperature difference between two objects. *(secondary)* ● The temperature of a system is proportional to the average internal kinetic energy and potential energy per atom or molecule (whichever is the appropriate building block for the system’s material). The details of that relationship depend on the type of atom or molecule and the interactions among the atoms in the material. Temperature is not a direct measure of a system's total thermal energy. The total thermal energy (sometimes called the total internal energy) of a system depends jointly on the temperature, the total number of atoms in the system, and the state of the material. *(secondary)*	**Cause and Effect** ● Cause and effect relationships may be used to predict phenomena in natural or designed systems.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:		
1	Components of the model	
	a	To make sense of a given phenomenon, students develop a model in which they identify the relevant components, including:
		i. Particles, including their motion.
		ii. The system within which the particles are contained.
		iii. The average kinetic energy of particles in the system.
		iv. Thermal energy of the system.
		v. Temperature of the system.
		vi. A pure substance in one of the states of matter (e.g., solid, liquid, gas at the macro scale).
2	Relationships	
	a	In the model, students describe* relationships between components, including:
		i. The relationships between:
		1. The motion of molecules in a system and the kinetic energy of the particles in the system.
		2. The average kinetic energy of the particles and the temperature of the system.
		3. The transfer of thermal energy from one system to another and:
		A. A change in kinetic energy of the particles in that new system, or
		B. A change in state of matter of the pure substance.
		4. The state of matter of the pure substance (gas, liquid, solid) and the particle motion (freely moving and not in contact with other particles, freely moving and in loose contact with other particles, vibrating in fixed positions relative to other particles).
3	Connections	
	a	Students use their model to provide a causal account of the relationship between the addition or removal of thermal energy from a substance and the change in the average kinetic energy of the particles in the substance.
	b	Students use their model to provide a causal account of the relationship between:
		i. The temperature of the system.
		ii. Motions of molecules in the gaseous phase.
		iii. The collisions of those molecules with other materials, which exerts a force called pressure.
	c	Students use their model to provide a causal account of what happens when thermal energy is transferred into a system, including that:
		i. An increase in kinetic energy of the particles can cause:
		1. An increase in the temperature of the system as the motion of the particles relative to each other increases, or
		2. A substance to change state from a solid to a liquid or from a liquid to a gas.
		ii. The motion of molecules in a gaseous state increases, causing the moving molecules in the gas to have greater kinetic energy, thereby colliding with molecules in surrounding materials with greater force (i.e., the pressure of the system increases).
	d	Students use their model to provide a causal account of what happens when thermal energy is transferred from a substance, including that:
		i. Decreased kinetic energy of the particles can cause:
		1. A decrease in the temperature of the system as the motion of the particles relative to each other decreases, or
		2. A substance to change state from a gas to a liquid or from a liquid to a solid.
		ii. The pressure that a gas exerts decreases because the kinetic energy of the gas molecules decreases, and the slower molecules exert less force in collisions with other molecules in surrounding materials.
	e	Students use their model to provide a causal account for the relationship between changes in pressure of a system and changes of the states of materials in the system.
		i. With a decrease in pressure, a smaller addition of thermal energy is required for particles of a liquid to change to gas because particles in the gaseous state are colliding with the surface of the liquid less frequently and exerting less force on the particles in the liquid, thereby allowing the particles in the liquid to break away and move into the gaseous state with the addition of less energy.

		ii. With an increase in pressure, a greater addition of thermal energy is required for particles of a liquid to change to gas because particles in the gaseous state are colliding with the surface of the liquid more frequently and exerting greater force on the particles in the liquid, thereby limiting the movement of particles from the liquid to gaseous state.

MS-PS1-5 Matter and its Interactions

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-PS1-5. Develop and use a model to describe how the total number of atoms does not change in a chemical reaction and thus mass is conserved. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on law of conservation of matter and on physical models or drawings, including digital forms, that represent atoms.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Developing and Using Models

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to developing, using and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

- Develop a model to describe unobservable mechanisms.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Science Models, Laws, Mechanisms, and Theories Explain Natural Phenomena

- Laws are regularities or mathematical descriptions of natural phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS1.B: Chemical Reactions

- Substances react chemically in characteristic ways. In a chemical process, the atoms that make up the original substances are regrouped into different molecules, and these new substances have different properties from those of the reactants.
- The total number of each type of atom is conserved, and thus the mass does not change.

Crosscutting Concepts

Energy and Matter

- Matter is conserved because atoms are conserved in physical and chemical processes.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:		
1	Components of the model	
	a	To make sense of a given phenomenon, students develop a model in which they identify the relevant components for a given chemical reaction, including:
		i. The types and number of molecules that make up the reactants.
		ii. The types and number of molecules that make up the products.
2	Relationships	
	a	In the model, students describe* relationships between the components, including:
		i. Each molecule in each of the reactants is made up of the same type(s) and number of atoms.
		ii. When a chemical reaction occurs, the atoms that make up the molecules of reactants rearrange and form new molecules (i.e., products).
		iii. The number and types of atoms that make up the products are equal to the number and types of atoms that make up the reactants.
		iv. Each type of atom has a specific mass, which is the same for all atoms of that type.
		v.

3	Connections	
	a	Students use the model to describe* that the atoms that make up the reactants rearrange and come together in different arrangements to form the products of a reaction.
	b	Students use the model to provide a causal account that mass is conserved during chemical reactions because the number and types of atoms that are in the reactants equal the number and types of atoms that are in the products, and all atoms of the same type have the same mass regardless of the molecule in which they are found.

MS-PS1-6 Matter and its Interactions

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-PS1-6. **Undertake a design project to construct, test, and modify a device that either releases or absorbs thermal energy by chemical processes.*** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the design, controlling the transfer of energy to the environment, and modification of a device using factors such as type and concentration of a substance. Examples of designs could involve chemical reactions such as dissolving ammonium chloride or calcium chloride.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to include constructing explanations and designing solutions supported by multiple sources of evidence consistent with scientific knowledge, principles, and theories.

- Undertake a design project, engaging in the design cycle, to construct and/or implement a solution that meets specific design criteria and constraints.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS1.B: Chemical Reactions

- Some chemical reactions release energy, others store energy.

ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions

- A solution needs to be tested, and then modified on the basis of the test results, in order to improve it. *(secondary)*

ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution

- Although one design may not perform the best across all tests, identifying the characteristics of the design that performed the best in each test can provide useful information for the redesign process - that is, some of the characteristics may be incorporated into the new design. *(secondary)*
- The iterative process of testing the most promising solutions and modifying what is proposed on the basis of the test results leads to greater refinement and ultimately to an optimal solution. *(secondary)*

Crosscutting Concepts

Energy and Matter

- The transfer of energy can be tracked as energy flows through a designed or natural system.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Using scientific knowledge to generate design solutions		
	a	Given a problem to solve that requires either heating or cooling, students design and construct a solution (i.e., a device). In their designs, students:	
		i.	Identify the components within the system related to the design solution, including:
			1. The components within the system to or from which energy will be transferred to solve the problem.
			2. The chemical reaction(s) and the substances that will be used to either release or absorb thermal energy via the device.
		ii.	Describe* how the transfer of thermal energy between the device and other components within the system will be tracked and used to solve the given problem.
2	Describing* criteria and constraints, including quantification when appropriate		
	a	Students describe* the given criteria, including:	
		i.	Features of the given problem that are to be solved by the device.
		ii.	The absorption or release of thermal energy by the device via a chemical reaction.
	b	Students describe* the given constraints, which may include:	
		i.	Amount and cost of materials.
		ii.	Safety.

		iii. Amount of time during which the device must function.
3	Evaluating potential solutions	
	a	Students test the solution for its ability to solve the problem via the release or absorption of thermal energy to or from the system.
	b	Students use the results of their tests to systematically determine how well the design solution meets the criteria and constraints, and which characteristics of the design solution performed the best.
4	Modifying the design solution	
	a	Students modify the design of the device based on the results of iterative testing, and improve the design relative to the criteria and constraints.

MS-LS1-4 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS1-4. **Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of behaviors that affect the probability of animal reproduction could include nest building to protect young from cold, herding of animals to protect young from predators, and vocalization of animals and colorful plumage to attract mates for breeding. Examples of animal behaviors that affect the probability of plant reproduction could include transferring pollen or seeds, and creating conditions for seed germination and growth. Examples of plant structures could include bright flowers attracting butterflies that transfer pollen, flower nectar and odors that attract insects that transfer pollen, and hard shells on nuts that squirrels bury.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Engaging in Argument from Evidence

Scientists and engineers use reasoning and argument based on evidence to identify the best explanation for a natural phenomenon or the best solution to a design problem. Scientists and engineers use argumentation, the process by which evidence-based conclusions and solutions are reached, to listen to, compare, and evaluate competing ideas and methods based on merits. Scientists and engineers engage in argumentation when investigating a phenomenon, testing a design solution, resolving questions about measurements, building data models, and using evidence to evaluate claims.

Engaging in argument from evidence in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to constructing a convincing argument that supports or refutes claims for either explanations or solutions about the natural and designed world(s).

- Use an oral and written argument supported by empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support or refute an explanation or a model for a phenomenon or a solution to a problem.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms

- Animals engage in characteristic behaviors that increase the odds of reproduction.
- Plants reproduce in a variety of ways, sometimes depending on animal behavior and specialized features for reproduction.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Phenomena may have more than one cause, and some cause and effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:		
1	Supported claims	
	a	Students make a claim to support a given explanation of a phenomenon. In their claim, students include the idea that characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.
2	Identifying scientific evidence	
	a	Students identify the given evidence that supports the claim (e.g., evidence from data and scientific literature), including:
		i. Characteristic animal behaviors that increase the probability of reproduction.
		ii. Specialized plant and animal structures that increase the probability of reproduction.
		iii. Cause-and-effect relationships between:
		1. Specialized plant structures and the probability of successful reproduction of plants that have those structures.

		2. Animal behaviors and the probability of successful reproduction of animals that exhibit those behaviors.
		3. Plant reproduction and the animal behaviors related to plant reproduction.
3	Evaluating and critiquing the evidence	
	a	Students evaluate the evidence and identify the strengths and weaknesses of the evidence used to support the claim, including:
		i. Validity and reliability of sources.
		ii. Sufficiency — including relevance, validity, and reliability — of the evidence to make and defend the claim.
		iii. Alternative interpretations of the evidence and why the evidence supports the student’s claim, as opposed to any other claims.
4	Reasoning and synthesis	
	a	Students use reasoning to connect the appropriate evidence to the claim, using oral or written arguments. Students describe* the following chain of reasoning in their argumentation:
		i. Many characteristic animal behaviors affect the likelihood of successful reproduction.
		ii. Many specialized plant structures affect the likelihood of successful reproduction.
		iii. Sometimes, animal behavior plays a role in the likelihood of successful reproduction in plants.
		iv. Because successful reproduction has several causes and contributing factors, the cause-and-effect relationships between any of these characteristics, separately or together, and reproductive likelihood can be accurately reflected only in terms of probability.

MS-LS1-5 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS1-5. **Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of local environmental conditions could include availability of food, light, space, and water. Examples of genetic factors could include large breed cattle and species of grass affecting growth of organisms. Examples of evidence could include drought decreasing plant growth, fertilizer increasing plant growth, different varieties of plant seeds growing at different rates in different conditions, and fish growing larger in large ponds than they do in small ponds.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to include constructing explanations and designing solutions supported by multiple sources of evidence consistent with scientific knowledge, principles, and theories.

- Construct a scientific explanation based on valid and reliable evidence obtained from sources (including the students' own experiments) and the assumption that theories and laws that describe the natural world operate today as they did in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms

- Genetic factors as well as local conditions affect the growth of the adult plant.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Phenomena may have more than one cause, and some cause and effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:

1	Articulating the explanation of phenomena		
	a	Students articulate a statement that relates the given phenomenon to a scientific idea, including the idea that both environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.	
	b	Students use evidence and reasoning to construct a scientific explanation for the given phenomenon.	
2	Evidence		
	a	Students identify and describe* evidence (e.g., from students' own investigations, observations, reading material, archived data) necessary for constructing the explanation, including:	
		i.	Environmental factors (e.g., availability of light, space, water; size of habitat) and that they can influence growth.
		ii.	Genetic factors (e.g., specific breeds of plants and animals and their typical sizes) and that they can influence growth.
		iii.	Changes in the growth of organisms as specific environmental and genetic factors change.
	b	Students use multiple valid and reliable sources of evidence to construct the explanation.	

3	Reasoning		
	a	Students use reasoning, along with the assumption that theories and laws that describe the natural world operate today as they did in the past and will continue to do so in the future, to connect the evidence and support an explanation for a phenomenon involving genetic and environmental influences on organism growth. Students describe* their chain of reasoning that includes:	
		i.	Organism growth is influenced by multiple environmental (e.g., drought, changes in food availability) and genetic (e.g., specific breed) factors.
		ii.	Because both environmental and genetic factors can influence organisms simultaneously, organism growth is the result of environmental and genetic factors working together (e.g., water availability influences how tall dwarf fruit trees will grow).
		iii.	Because organism growth can have several genetic and environmental causes, the contributions of specific causes or factors to organism growth can be described only using probability (e.g., not every fish in a large pond grows to the same size).

MS-LS1-7 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS1-7. **Develop a model to describe how food is rearranged through chemical reactions forming new molecules that support growth and/or release energy as this matter moves through an organism.** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on describing that molecules are broken apart and put back together and that in this process, energy is released.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Developing and Using Models

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

- Develop a model to describe unobservable mechanisms.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS1.C: Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms

- Within individual organisms, food moves through a series of chemical reactions in which it is broken down and rearranged to form new molecules, to support growth, or to release energy.

PS3.D: Energy in Chemical Processes and Everyday Life

- Cellular respiration in plants and animals involve chemical reactions with oxygen that release stored energy. In these processes, complex molecules containing carbon react with oxygen to produce carbon dioxide and other materials. *(secondary)*

Crosscutting Concepts

Energy and Matter

- Matter is conserved because atoms are conserved in physical and chemical processes.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Components of the model		
	a	To make sense of a phenomenon, students develop a model in which they identify the relevant components for describing* how food molecules are rearranged as matter moves through an organism, including:	
		i.	Molecules of food, which are complex carbon-containing molecules.
		ii.	Oxygen.
		iii.	Energy that is released or absorbed during chemical reactions between food and oxygen.
		iv.	New types of molecules produced through chemical reactions involving food.
2	Relationships		
	a	In the model, students identify and describe* the relationships between components, including:	
		i.	During cellular respiration, molecules of food undergo chemical reactions with oxygen, releasing stored energy.
		ii.	The atoms in food are rearranged through chemical reactions to form new molecules.
3	Connections		
	a	Students use the model to describe*:	
		i.	The number of each type of atom being the same before and after chemical reactions, indicating that the matter ingested as food is conserved as it moves through an organism to support growth.

		ii.	That all matter (atoms) used by the organism for growth comes from the products of the chemical reactions involving the matter taken in by the organism.
		iii.	Food molecules taken in by the organism are broken down and can then be rearranged to become the molecules that comprise the organism (e.g., the proteins and other molecules in a hamburger can be broken down and used to make a variety of tissues in humans).
		iv.	As food molecules are rearranged, energy is released and can be used to support other processes within the organism.

MS-LS3-1 Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS3-1. Develop and use a model to describe why structural changes to genes (mutations) located on chromosomes may affect proteins and may result in harmful, beneficial, or neutral effects to the structure and function of the organism. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on conceptual understanding that changes in genetic material may result in making different proteins.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Developing and Using Models

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

- Develop and use a model to describe phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS3.A: Inheritance of Traits

- Genes are located in the chromosomes of cells, with each chromosome pair containing two variants of each of many distinct genes. Each distinct gene chiefly controls the production of specific proteins, which in turn affects the traits of the individual. Changes (mutations) to genes can result in changes to proteins, which can affect the structures and functions of the organism and thereby change traits.

LS3.B: Variation of Traits

- In addition to variations that arise from sexual reproduction, genetic information can be altered because of mutations. Though rare, mutations may result in changes to the structure and function of proteins. Some changes are beneficial, others harmful, and some neutral to the organism.

Crosscutting Concepts

Structure and Function

- Complex and microscopic structures and systems can be visualized, modeled, and used to describe how their function depends on the shapes, composition, and relationships among its parts, therefore complex natural structures/systems can be analyzed to determine how they function.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Components of the model		
	a	Students develop a model in which they identify the relevant components for making sense of a given phenomenon involving the relationship between mutations and the effects on the organism, including:	
		i.	Structure of DNA
		ii.	Genes, located on chromosomes.
		iii.	Proteins.
		iv.	Traits of organisms.
2	Relationships		
	a	In their model, students describe* the relationships between components, including:	
		i.	Every gene has a certain structure, which determines the structure of a specific set of proteins.
		ii.	Protein structure influences protein function (e.g.: ~~,~~the structure of some blood proteins allows them to attach to oxygen, the structure of a normal digestive protein allows it to break down particular food molecules).
		iii.	Observable organism traits (e.g., structural, functional, behavioral) result from the activity of proteins.
3	Connections		
	a	Students use the model to describe* that structural changes to genes (i.e., mutations) may result in observable effects at the level of the organism, including why structural changes to genes:	
		i.	May affect protein structure and function.

		ii. May affect how proteins contribute to observable structures and functions in organisms.
		iii. May result in trait changes that are beneficial, harmful, or neutral for the organism.
	b	Students use the model to describe* that beneficial, neutral, or harmful changes to protein function can cause beneficial, neutral, or harmful changes in the structure and function of organisms.

MS-LS3-2 Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS3-2. **Develop and use a model to describe why asexual reproduction results in offspring with identical genetic information and sexual reproduction results in offspring with genetic variation.** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on using models such as Punnett squares, diagrams, and simulations to describe the cause and effect relationship of gene transmission from parent(s) to offspring and resulting genetic variation.]

The performance expectation above was developed using the following elements from the NRC document *A Framework for K-12 Science Education*:

Science and Engineering Practices

Developing and Using Models

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

- Develop and use a model to describe phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms

- Organisms reproduce, either sexually or asexually, and transfer their genetic information to their offspring. *(secondary)*

LS3.A: Inheritance of Traits

- Variations of inherited traits between parent and offspring arise from genetic differences that result from the subset of chromosomes (and therefore genes) inherited.

LS3.B: Variation of Traits

- In sexually reproducing organisms, each parent contributes half of the genes acquired (at random) by the offspring. Individuals have two of each chromosome and hence two alleles of each gene, one acquired from each parent. These versions may be identical or may differ from each other.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Cause and effect relationships may be used to predict phenomena in natural systems.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:

1	Components of the model	
	a	Students develop a model (e.g., Punnett squares, diagrams, simulations) for a given phenomenon involving the differences in genetic variation that arise from sexual and asexual reproduction. In the model, students identify and describe* the relevant components, including:
		i. Chromosome pairs, including genetic variants, in asexual reproduction:
		1. Parents.
		2. Offspring.
		ii. Chromosome pairs, including genetic variants, in sexual reproduction:
		1. Parents.
		2. Offspring.
2	Relationships	
	a	In their model, students describe* the relationships between components, including:
		i. During reproduction (both sexual and asexual), parents transfer genetic information in the form of genes to their offspring.
		ii. Under normal conditions, offspring have the same number of chromosomes, and therefore genes, as their parents.
		iii. During asexual reproduction, a single parent's chromosomes (one set) are the source of genetic material in the offspring.
		iv. During sexual reproduction, two parents (two sets of chromosomes) contribute genetic material to the offspring.

3	Connections	
	a	Students use the model to describe* a causal account for why sexual and asexual reproduction result in different amounts of genetic variation in offspring relative to their parents, including that:
		i. In asexual reproduction:
		1. Offspring have a single source of genetic information, and their chromosomes are complete copies of each single parent pair of chromosomes.
		2. Offspring chromosomes are identical to parent chromosomes.
		ii. In sexual reproduction:
		1. Offspring have two sources of genetic information (i.e., two sets of chromosomes) that contribute to each final pair of chromosomes in the offspring.
		2. Because both parents are likely to contribute different genetic information, offspring chromosomes reflect a combination of genetic material from two sources and therefore contain new combinations of genes (genetic variation) that make offspring chromosomes distinct from those of either parent.
	b	Students use cause-and-effect relationships found in the model between the type of reproduction and the resulting genetic variation to predict that more genetic variation occurs in organisms that reproduce sexually compared to organisms that reproduce asexually.

MS-LS4-1 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS4-1. Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of life forms throughout the history of life on Earth under the assumption that natural laws operate today as in the past. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on finding patterns of changes in the level of complexity of anatomical structures in organisms and the chronological order of fossil appearance in the rock layers.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Investigations produce data that must be analyzed in order to derive meaning. Because data patterns and trends are not always obvious, scientists and engineers use a range of tools to identify the significant features in the data. They identify sources of error in the investigations and calculate the degree of certainty in the results. Advances in science and engineering makes analysis of proposed solutions more efficient and effective. They analyze their results by continually asking themselves questions; possible questions may be, but are not limited to: "Does this make sense?" "Could my results be duplicated?" and/or "Does the design solve the problem with the given constraints?"

Analyzing data in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to extending quantitative analysis to investigations, distinguishing between correlation and causation, and basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis.

- Analyze and interpret data to determine similarities and differences in findings.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Scientific Knowledge is Based on Empirical Evidence

- Science knowledge is based upon logical and conceptual connections between evidence and explanations.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS4.A: Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity

- The collection of fossils and their placement in chronological order (e.g., through the location of the sedimentary layers in which they are found or through radioactive dating) is known as the fossil record. It documents the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of many life forms throughout the history of life on Earth.

Crosscutting Concepts

Patterns

- Graphs, charts, and images can be used to identify patterns in data.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Scientific Knowledge Assumes an Order and Consistency in Natural Systems

- Science assumes that objects and events in natural systems occur in consistent patterns that are understandable through measurement and observation.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Organizing data		
	a	Students organize the given data (e.g., using tables, graphs, charts, images), including the appearance of specific types of fossilized organisms in the fossil record as a function of time, as determined by their locations in the sedimentary layers or the ages of rocks.	
	b	Students organize the data in a way that allows for the identification, analysis, and interpretation of similarities and differences in the data.	
2	Identifying relationships		
	a	Students identify:	
		i.	Patterns between any given set of sedimentary layers and the relative ages of those layers.
		ii.	The time period(s) during which a given fossil organism is present in the fossil record.
		iii.	Periods of time for which changes in the presence or absence of large numbers of organisms or specific types of organisms can be observed in the fossil record (e.g., a fossil layer with very few organisms immediately next to a fossil layer with many types of organisms).
		iv.	Patterns of changes in the level of complexity of anatomical structures in organisms in the fossil record, as a function of time.
3	Interpreting data		
	a	Students analyze and interpret the data to determine evidence for the existence, diversity, extinction, and change in life forms throughout the history of Earth, using the assumption that natural laws operate today as they would have in the past. Students use similarities and differences in the observed patterns to provide evidence for:	
		i.	When mass extinctions occurred.
		ii.	When organisms or types of organisms emerged, went extinct, or evolved.
		iii.	The long-term increase in the diversity and complexity of organisms on Earth.

MS-LS4-2 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS4-2. Apply scientific ideas to construct an explanation for the anatomical similarities and differences among modern organisms and between modern and fossil organisms to infer evolutionary relationships. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on explanations of the evolutionary relationships among organisms in terms of similarity or differences of the gross appearance of anatomical structures.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to include constructing explanations and designing solutions supported by multiple sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles, and theories.

- Apply scientific ideas to construct an explanation for real-world phenomena, examples, or events.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS4.A: Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity

- Anatomical similarities and differences between various organisms living today and between them and organisms in the fossil record, enable the reconstruction of evolutionary history and the inference of lines of evolutionary descent.

Crosscutting Concepts

Patterns

- Patterns can be used to identify cause and effect relationships.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Scientific Knowledge Assumes an Order and Consistency in Natural Systems

- Science assumes that objects and events in natural systems occur in consistent patterns that are understandable through measurement and observation.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Articulating the explanation of phenomena		
	a	Students articulate a statement that relates a given phenomenon to scientific ideas, including the following ideas about similarities and differences in organisms and their evolutionary relationships:	
		i.	Anatomical similarities and differences among organisms can be used to infer evolutionary relationships, including:
			1. Among modern organisms.
			2. Between modern and fossil organisms.
	b	Students use evidence and reasoning to construct an explanation for the given phenomenon.	
2	Evidence		
	a	Students identify and describe* evidence (e.g., from students' own investigations, observations, reading material, archived data, simulations) necessary for constructing the explanation, including similarities and differences in anatomical patterns in and between:	
		i.	Modern, living organisms (e.g., skulls of modern crocodiles, skeletons of birds; features of modern whales and elephants).
		ii.	Fossilized organisms (e.g., skulls of fossilized crocodiles, fossilized dinosaurs).
3	Reasoning		
	a	Students use reasoning to connect the evidence to support an explanation. Students describe* the following chain of reasoning for the explanation:	
		i.	Organisms that share a pattern of anatomical features are likely to be more closely related than are organisms that do not share a pattern of anatomical features, due to the cause-and-

			effect relationship between genetic makeup and anatomy (e.g., although birds and insects both have wings, the organisms are structurally very different and not very closely related; the wings of birds and bats are structurally similar, and the organisms are more closely related; the limbs of horses and zebras are structurally very similar, and they are more closely related than are birds and bats or birds and insects).
		ii.	Changes over time in the anatomical features observable in the fossil record can be used to infer lines of evolutionary descent by linking extinct organisms to living organisms through a series of fossilized organisms that share a basic set of anatomical features.

MS-LS4-3 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS4-3. Analyze displays of pictorial data to compare patterns of similarities in the embryological development across multiple species to identify relationships not evident in the fully formed anatomy. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on inferring general patterns of relatedness among embryos of different organisms by comparing the macroscopic appearance of diagrams or pictures.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Analyzing and Interpreting Data Investigations produce data that must be analyzed in order to derive meaning. Because data patterns and trends are not always obvious, scientists and engineers use a range of tools to identify the significant features in the data. They identify sources of error in the investigations and calculate the degree of certainty in the results. Advances in science and engineering makes analysis of proposed solutions more efficient and effective. They analyze their results by continually asking themselves questions; possible questions may be, but are not limited to: “Does this make sense?” "Could my results be duplicated?" and/or “Does the design solve the problem with the given constraints?” Analyzing data in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to extending quantitative analysis to investigations, distinguishing between correlation and causation, and basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis. • Analyze displays of data to identify linear and nonlinear relationships.	**LS4.A: Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity** • Comparison of the embryological development of different species also reveals similarities that show relationships not evident in the fully formed anatomy.	**Patterns** • Graphs, charts, and images can be used to identify patterns in data.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Organizing data		
	a	Students organize the given displays of pictorial data of embryos by developmental stage and by organism (e.g., early, middle, just prior to birth) to allow for the identification, analysis, and interpretation of relationships in the data.	
2	Identifying relationships		
	a	Students analyze their organized pictorial displays to identify linear and nonlinear relationships, including:	
		i.	Patterns of similarities in embryos across species (e.g., early mammal embryos and early fish embryos both contain gill slits, whale embryos and the embryos of land animals — even some snakes — have hind limbs).
		ii.	Patterns of changes as embryos develop (e.g., mammal embryos lose their gill slits, but the gill slits develop into gills in fish).
3	Interpreting data		
	a	Students use patterns of similarities and changes in embryo development to describe* evidence for relatedness among apparently diverse species, including similarities that are not evident in the fully formed anatomy (e.g., mammals and fish are more closely related than they appear to be based on their adult features, whales are related to land animals).	

MS-LS4-4 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS4-4. Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increase some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on using simple probability statements and proportional reasoning to construct explanations.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to include constructing explanations and designing solutions supported by multiple sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles, and theories.

- Construct an explanation that includes qualitative or quantitative relationships between variables that describe phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS4.B: Natural Selection

- Natural selection leads to the predominance of certain traits in a population, and the suppression of others.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Phenomena may have more than one cause, and some cause and effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Articulating the explanation for phenomena		
	a	Students articulate a statement that relates the given phenomenon to scientific ideas about the cause-and-effect relationship between the inheritance of traits increasing the chances of successful reproduction and natural selection.	
	b	Students use evidence and reasoning to construct an explanation for the given phenomenon.	
2	Evidence		
	a	Students identify and describe* given evidence (e.g., from students' own investigations, observations, reading materials, archived data) necessary for constructing the explanation, including:	
		i.	Individuals in a species have genetic variation that can be passed on to their offspring.
		ii.	The probability of a specific organism surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.
		iii.	The traits (i.e., specific variations of a characteristic) and the cause-and-effect relationships between those traits and the probability of survival and reproduction of a given organism in a specific environment.
		iv.	The particular genetic variations (associated with those traits) that are carried by that organism.
3	Reasoning		
	a	Students use reasoning to connect the evidence and support an explanation that describes* the relationship between genetic variation and the success of organisms in a specific environment. Students describe* a chain of reasoning that includes:	
		i.	Any population in a given environment contains a variety of available, inheritable genetic traits.

		ii.	For a specific environment (e.g., different environments may have limited food availability, predators, nesting site availability, light availability), some traits confer advantages that make it more probable that an organism will be able to survive and reproduce there.
		iii.	In a population, there is a cause-and-effect relationship between the variation of traits and the probability that specific organisms will be able to survive and reproduce.
		iv.	Variation of traits is a result of genetic variations occurring in the population.
		v.	The proportion of individual organisms that have genetic variations and traits that are advantageous in a particular environment will increase from generation to generation due to natural selection because the probability that those individuals will survive and reproduce is greater.
		vi.	Similarly, the proportion of individual organisms that have genetic variations and traits that are disadvantageous in a particular environment will be less likely to survive, and the disadvantageous traits will decrease from generation to generation due to natural selection.

MS-LS4-5 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS4-5. **Gather and synthesize information about the technologies that have changed the way humans influence the inheritance of desired traits in organisms.** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on synthesizing information from reliable sources about the influence of humans on genetic outcomes in artificial selection (such as genetic modification, animal husbandry, gene therapy); and, on the impacts these technologies have on society as well as the technologies leading to these scientific discoveries.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Scientists and engineers need to be communicating clearly and articulating the ideas and methods they generate. Critiquing and communicating ideas individually and in groups is a critical professional activity. Communicating information and ideas can be done in multiple ways: using tables, diagrams, graphs, models, and equations, as well as, orally, in writing, and through extended discussions. Scientists and engineers employ multiple sources to obtain information that is used to evaluate the merit and validity of claims, methods, and designs.

Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to evaluating the merit and validity of ideas and methods.

- Gather, read, and synthesize information from multiple appropriate sources and assess the credibility, accuracy, and possible bias of each publication and methods used, and describe how they are supported or not supported by evidence.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS4.B: Natural Selection

- In *artificial* selection, humans have the capacity to influence certain characteristics of organisms by selective breeding. One can choose desired parental traits determined by genes, which are then passed on to offspring.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Phenomena may have more than one cause, and some cause and effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.

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Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

Interdependence of Science, Engineering, and Technology

- Engineering advances have led to important discoveries in virtually every field of science, and scientific discoveries have led to the development of entire industries and engineered systems.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Science Addresses Questions About the Natural and Material World

- Scientific knowledge can describe the consequences of actions but does not necessarily prescribe the decisions that society takes.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:		
1	Obtaining information	
	a	Students gather information about at least two technologies that have changed the way humans influence the inheritance of desired traits in plants and animals through artificial selection by choosing desired parental traits determined by genes, which are then often passed on to offspring. Examples could include gene therapy, genetic modification, and selective breeding of plants and animals.
	b	Students use at least two appropriate and reliable sources of information for investigating each technology.
2	Evaluating information	

	a	Students assess the credibility, accuracy, and possible bias of each publication and method used in the information they gather.
	b	Students use their knowledge of artificial selection and additional sources to describe* how the information they gather is or is not supported by evidence.
	c	Students synthesize the information from multiple sources to provide examples of how technologies have changed the ways that humans are able to influence the inheritance of desired traits in organisms.
	d	Students use the information to identify and describe* how a better understanding of cause-and-effect relationships in how traits occur in organisms has led to advances in technology that provide a higher probability of being able to influence the inheritance of desired traits in organisms.

MS-LS4-6 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-LS4-6. Use mathematical representations to support explanations of how natural selection may lead to increases and decreases of specific traits in populations over time. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on using mathematical models, probability statements, and proportional reasoning to support explanations of trends in changes to populations over time.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking In both science and engineering, mathematics and computation are fundamental tools for representing physical variables and their relationships. They are used for a range of tasks such as constructing simulations; solving equations exactly or approximately; and recognizing, expressing, and applying quantitative relationships. Mathematical and computational approaches enable scientists and engineers to predict the behavior of systems and test the validity of such predictions. Scientists and engineers understand how mathematical ideas interconnect and build on one another to produce a coherent whole. Mathematical and computational thinking in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to identifying patterns in large data sets and using mathematical concepts to support explanations and arguments. • Use mathematical representations to support scientific conclusions and design solutions.	**LS4.C: Adaptation** • Adaptation by natural selection acting over generations is one important process by which species change over time in response to changes in environmental conditions. Traits that support successful survival and reproduction in the new environment become more common; those that do not become less common. Thus, the distribution of traits in a population changes.	**Cause and Effect** • Phenomena may have more than one cause, and some cause and effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Representation		
	a	Students identify the explanations for phenomena that they will support, which include:	
		i.	Characteristics of a species change over time (i.e., over generations) through adaptation by natural selection in response to changes in environmental conditions.
		ii.	Traits that better support survival and reproduction in a new environment become more common within a population within that environment.
		iii.	Traits that do not support survival and reproduction as well become less common within a population in that environment.
		iv.	When environmental shifts are too extreme, populations do not have time to adapt and may become extinct.
	b	From given mathematical and/or computational representations of phenomena, students identify the relevant components, including:	
		i.	Population changes (e.g., trends, averages, histograms, graphs, spreadsheets) gathered from historical data or simulations.
		ii.	The distribution of specific traits over time from data and/or simulations.
		iii.	Environmental conditions (e.g., climate, resource availability) over time from data and/or simulations.

2	Mathematical Modeling		
	a	Students use the given mathematical and/or computational representations (e.g., trends, averages, histograms, graphs, spreadsheets) of the phenomenon to identify relationships in the data and/or simulations, including:	
		i.	Changes and trends over time in the distribution of traits within a population.
		ii.	Multiple cause-and-effect relationships between environmental conditions and natural selection in a population.
		iii.	The increases or decreases of some traits within a population can have more than one environmental cause.
3	Analysis		
	a	Students analyze the mathematical and/or computational representations to provide and describe* evidence that distributions of traits in populations change over time in response to changes in environmental conditions. Students synthesize their analysis together with scientific information about natural selection to describe* that species adapt through natural selection. This results in changes in the distribution of traits within a population and in the probability that any given organism will carry a particular trait.	
	b	Students use the analysis of the mathematical and/or computational representations (including proportional reasoning) as evidence to support the explanations that:	
		i.	Through natural selection, traits that better support survival and reproduction are more common in a population than those traits that are less effective.
		ii.	Populations are not always able to adapt and survive because adaptation by natural selection occurs over generations.
	c	Based on their analysis, students describe* that because there are multiple cause-and-effect relationships contributing to the phenomenon, for each different cause it is not possible to predict with 100% certainty what will happen.	

MS-ESS2-4 Earth's Systems

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ESS2-4. Develop a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth's systems driven by energy from the sun and the force of gravity. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the ways water changes its state as it moves through the multiple pathways of the hydrologic cycle. Examples of models can be conceptual or physical.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Developing and Using Models

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

- Develop a model to describe unobservable mechanisms.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

ESS2.C: The Roles of Water in Earth's Surface Processes

- Water continually cycles among land, ocean, and atmosphere via transpiration, evaporation, condensation and crystallization, and precipitation, as well as downhill flows on land.
- Global movements of water and its changes in form are propelled by sunlight and gravity.

Crosscutting Concepts

Energy and Matter

- Within a natural or designed system, the transfer of energy drives the motion and/or cycling of matter.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Components of the model		
	a	To make sense of a phenomenon, students develop a model in which they identify the relevant components:	
		i.	Water (liquid, solid, and in the atmosphere).
		ii.	Energy in the form of sunlight.
		iii.	Gravity.
		iv.	Atmosphere.
		v.	Landforms.
		vi.	Plants and other living things.
2	Relationships		
	a	In their model, students describe* the relevant relationships between components, including:	
		i.	Energy transfer from the sun warms water on Earth, which can evaporate into the atmosphere.
		ii.	Water vapor in the atmosphere forms clouds, which can cool and condense to produce precipitation that falls to the surface of Earth.
		iii.	Gravity causes water on land to move downhill (e.g., rivers and glaciers) and much of it eventually flows into oceans.
		iv.	Some liquid and solid water remains on land in the form of bodies of water and ice sheets.
		v.	Some water remains in the tissues of plants and other living organisms, and this water is released when the tissues decompose.
	Connections		

3	a	Students use the model to account for both energy from light and the force of gravity driving water cycling between oceans, the atmosphere, and land, including that:
		i. Energy from the sun drives the movement of water from the Earth (e.g., oceans, landforms, plants) into the atmosphere through transpiration and evaporation.
		ii. Water vapor in the atmosphere can cool and condense to form rain or crystallize to form snow or ice, which returns to Earth when pulled down by gravity.
		iii. Some rain falls back into the ocean, and some rain falls on land. Water that falls on land can:
		1. Be pulled down by gravity to form surface waters such as rivers, which join together and generally flow back into the ocean.
		2. Evaporate back into the atmosphere.
		3. Be taken up by plants, which release it through transpiration and also eventually through decomposition.
		4. Be taken up by animals, which release it through respiration and also eventually through decomposition.
		5. Freeze (crystallize) and/or collect in frozen form, in some cases forming glaciers or ice sheets.
		6. Be stored on land in bodies of water or below ground in aquifers.
	b	Students use the model to describe* that the transfer of energy between water and its environment drives the phase changes that drive water cycling through evaporation, transpiration, condensation, crystallization, and precipitation.
	c	Students use the model to describe* how gravity interacts with water in different phases and locations to drive water cycling between the Earth's surface and the atmosphere.

MS-ESS3-3 Earth and Human Activity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ESS3-3. Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of the design process include examining human environmental impacts, assessing the kinds of solutions that are feasible, and designing and evaluating solutions that could reduce that impact. Examples of human impacts can include water usage (such as the withdrawal of water from streams and aquifers or the construction of dams and levees), land usage (such as urban development, agriculture, or the removal of wetlands), and pollution (such as of the air, water, or land).]

Science and Engineering Practices

Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to include constructing explanations and designing solutions supported by multiple sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles, and theories.

- Apply scientific principles to design an object, tool, process or system.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

- Human activities have significantly altered the biosphere, sometimes damaging or destroying natural habitats and causing the extinction of other species. But changes to Earth's environments can have different impacts (negative and positive) for different living things.
- Typically, as human populations and per-capita consumption of natural resources increase, so do the negative impacts on Earth unless the activities and technologies involved are engineered otherwise.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Relationships can be classified as causal or correlational, and correlation does not necessarily imply causation.

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Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

Influence of Science, Engineering, and Technology on Society and the Natural World

- The uses of technologies and any limitations on their use are driven by individual or societal needs, desires, and values; by the findings of scientific research; and by differences in such factors as climate, natural resources, and economic conditions. Thus, technology use varies from region to region and over time.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Using scientific knowledge to generate design solutions		
	a	Given a problem related to human impact on the environment, students use scientific information and principles to generate a design solution that:	
		i.	Addresses the results of the particular human activity.
		ii.	Incorporates technologies that can be used to monitor and minimize negative effects that human activities have on the environment.
	b	Students identify relationships activity and the negative environmental impact based on scientific principles, and distinguish between causal and correlational relationships to facilitate the design of the solution.	
2	Describing* criteria and constraints, including quantification when appropriate		
	a	Students define and quantify, when appropriate, criteria and constraints for the solution, including:	
		i.	Individual or societal needs and desires.
		ii.	Constraints imposed by economic conditions (e.g., costs of building and maintaining the solution).
	Evaluating potential solutions		

3	a	Students describe* how well the solution meets the criteria and constraints, including monitoring or minimizing a human impact based on the causal relationships between relevant scientific principles about the processes that occur in, as well as among, Earth systems and the human impact on the environment.
	b	Students identify limitations of the use of technologies employed by the solution.

MS-ESS3-4 Earth and Human Activity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ESS3-4. Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems. [Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence include grade-appropriate databases on human populations and the rates of consumption of food and natural resources (such as freshwater, mineral, and energy). Examples of impacts can include changes to the appearance, composition, and structure of Earth's systems as well as the rates at which they change. The consequences of increases in human populations and consumption of natural resources are described by science, but science does not make the decisions for the actions society takes.]

Science and Engineering Practices

Engaging in Argument from Evidence

Scientists and engineers use reasoning and argument based on evidence to identify the best explanation for a natural phenomenon or the best solution to a design problem. Scientists and engineers use argumentation, the process by which evidence-based conclusions and solutions are reached, to listen to, compare, and evaluate competing ideas and methods based on merits. Scientists and engineers engage in argumentation when investigating a phenomenon, testing a design solution, resolving questions about measurements, building data models, and using evidence to evaluate claims.

Engaging in argument from evidence in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to constructing a convincing argument that supports or refutes claims for either explanations or solutions about the natural and designed world(s).

- Construct an oral and written argument supported by empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support or refute an explanation or a model for a phenomenon or a solution to a problem.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

- Typically, as human populations and per-capita consumption of natural resources increase, so do the negative impacts on Earth unless the activities and technologies involved are engineered otherwise.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Cause and effect relationships may be used to predict phenomena in natural or designed systems.

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Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

Influence of Science, Engineering, and Technology on Society and the Natural World

- All human activity draws on natural resources and has both short and long-term consequences, positive as well as negative, for the health of people and the natural environment.

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Connections to Nature of Science

Science Addresses Questions About the Natural and Material World

- Scientific knowledge can describe the consequences of actions but does not necessarily prescribe the decisions that society takes.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Supported claims		
	a	Students make a claim, to be supported by evidence, to support or refute an explanation or model for a given phenomenon. Students include the following idea in their claim: that increases in the size of the human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources affect Earth systems.	
2	Identifying scientific evidence		
	a	Students identify evidence to support the claim from the given materials, including:	
		i.	Changes in the size of human population(s) in a given region or ecosystem over a given timespan.
		ii.	Per-capita consumption of resources by humans in a given region or ecosystem over a given timespan.
		iii.	Changes in Earth systems in a given region or ecosystem over a given timespan.
		iv.	The ways engineered solutions have altered the effects of human activities on Earth's systems.
3	Evaluating and critiquing evidence		
	a	Students evaluate the evidence for its necessity and sufficiency for supporting the claim.	
	b	Students determine whether the evidence is sufficient to determine causal relationships between consumption of natural resources and the impact on Earth systems.	
	c	Students consider alternative interpretations of the evidence and describe* why the evidence supports the claim they are making, as opposed to any alternative claims.	
4	Reasoning and synthesis		
	a	Students use reasoning to connect the evidence and evaluation to the claim. In their arguments, students describe* a chain of reasoning that includes:	
		i.	Increases in the size of the human population or in the per-capita consumption of a given population cause increases in the consumption of natural resources.
		ii.	Natural resource consumption causes changes in Earth systems.
		iii.	Because human population growth affects natural resource consumption and natural resource consumption has an effect on Earth systems, changes in human populations have a causal role in changing Earth systems.
		iv.	Engineered solutions alter the effects of human populations on Earth systems by changing the rate of natural resource consumption or mitigating the effects of changes in Earth systems.

MS-ESS3-5 Earth and Human Activity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ESS3-5. Ask questions to clarify evidence of the factors that have caused the rise in global temperatures over the past century. [Clarification Statement: Examples of factors include human activities (such as fossil fuel combustion, cement production, and agricultural activity) and natural processes (such as changes in incoming solar radiation or volcanic activity). Examples of evidence can include tables, graphs, and maps of global and regional temperatures, atmospheric levels of gases such as carbon dioxide and methane, and the rates of human activities. Emphasis is on the major role that human activities play in causing the rise in global temperatures.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Asking Questions and Defining Problems A practice of science is posing and refining questions that lead to descriptions and explanations of how the natural and designed world(s) work and these questions can be scientifically tested. Engineering questions clarify problems to determine criteria for possible solutions and identify constraints to solve problems about the designed world. Asking questions and defining problems in grades 6–8 builds on grades K–5 experiences and progresses to specifying relationships between variables, and clarifying arguments and models. ● Ask questions to identify and clarify evidence of an argument.	**ESS3.D: Global Climate Change** ● Human activities, such as the release of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels, are major factors in the current rise in Earth's mean surface temperature (global warming). Reducing the level of climate change and reducing human vulnerability to whatever climate changes do occur depend on the understanding of climate science, engineering capabilities, and other kinds of knowledge, such as understanding of human behavior and on applying that knowledge wisely in decisions and activities.	**Stability and Change** ● Stability might be disturbed either by sudden events or gradual changes that accumulate over time.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Addressing phenomena of the natural world		
	a	Students examine a given claim and the given supporting evidence as a basis for formulating questions. Students ask questions that would identify and clarify the evidence, including:	
		i.	The relevant ways in which natural processes and/or human activities may have affected the patterns of change in global temperatures over the past century.
		ii.	The influence of natural processes and/or human activities on a gradual or sudden change in global temperatures in natural systems (e.g., glaciers and arctic ice, and plant and animal seasonal movements and life cycle activities).
		iii.	The influence of natural processes and/or human activities on changes in the concentration of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere over the past century.
2	Identifying the scientific nature of the question		
	a	Students questions can be answered by examining evidence for:	
		i.	Patterns in data that connect natural processes and human activities to changes in global temperatures over the past century.
		ii.	Patterns in data that connect the changes in natural processes and/or human activities related to greenhouse gas production to changes in the concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

MS-ETS1-1 Engineering Design

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ETS1-1. Define the criteria and constraints of a design problem with sufficient precision to ensure a successful solution, taking into account relevant scientific principles and potential impacts on people and the natural environment that may limit possible solutions.

Science and Engineering Practices

Asking Questions and Defining Problems

A practice of science is posing and refining questions that lead to descriptions and explanations of how the natural and designed world(s) work and these questions can be scientifically tested. Engineering questions clarify problems to determine criteria for possible solutions and identify constraints to solve problems about the designed world.

Asking questions and defining problems in grades 6–8 builds on grades K–5 experiences and progresses to specifying relationships between variables, and clarifying arguments and models.

- Define a design problem that can be solved through the development of an object, tool, process or system and includes multiple criteria and constraints, including scientific knowledge that may limit possible solutions.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

ETS1.A: Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems

- The more precisely a design task's criteria and constraints can be defined, the more likely it is that the designed solution will be successful. Specification of constraints includes consideration of scientific principles and other relevant knowledge that are likely to limit possible solutions.

Crosscutting Concepts

Influence of Science, Engineering, and Technology on Society and the Natural World

- All human activity draws on natural resources and has both short and long-term consequences, positive as well as negative, for the health of people and the natural environment.
- The uses of technologies and limitations on their use are driven by individual or societal needs, desires, and values; by the findings of scientific research; and by differences in such factors as climate, natural resources, and economic conditions.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Identifying the problem to be solved		
	a	Students describe* a problem that can be solved through the development of an object, tool, process, or system.	
2	Defining the process or system boundaries and the components of the process or system		
	a	Students identify the system in which the problem is embedded, including the major components and relationships in the system and its boundaries, to clarify what is and is not part of the problem. In their definition of the system, students include:	
		i.	Which individuals or groups need this problem to be solved.
		ii.	The needs that must be met by solving the problem.
		iii.	Scientific issues that are relevant to the problem.
		iv.	Potential societal and environmental impacts of solutions.
		v.	The relative importance of the various issues and components of the process or system.
3	Defining criteria and constraints		
	a	Students define criteria that must be taken into account in the solution that:	
		i.	Meet the needs of the individuals or groups who may be affected by the problem (including defining who will be the target of the solution).
		ii.	Enable comparisons among different solutions, including quantitative considerations when appropriate.
	b	Students define constraints that must be taken into account in the solution, including:	
		i.	Time, materials, and costs.
		ii.	Scientific or other issues that are relevant to the problem.

		iii.	Needs and desires of the individuals or groups involved that may limit acceptable solutions.
		iv.	Safety considerations.
		v.	Potential effect(s) on other individuals or groups.
		vi.	Potential negative environmental effects of possible solutions or failure to solve the problem.

MS-ETS1-2 Engineering Design

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ETS1-2. Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to determine how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.

Science and Engineering Practices

Engaging in Argument from Evidence

Scientists and engineers use reasoning and argument based on evidence to identify the best explanation for a natural phenomenon or the best solution to a design problem. Scientists and engineers use argumentation, the process by which evidence-based conclusions and solutions are reached, to listen to, compare, and evaluate competing ideas and methods based on merits. Scientists and engineers engage in argumentation when investigating a phenomenon, testing a design solution, resolving questions about measurements, building data models, and using evidence to evaluate claims.

Engaging in argument from evidence in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to constructing a convincing argument that supports or refutes claims for either explanations or solutions about the natural and designed world.

- Evaluate competing design solutions based on jointly developed and agreed-upon design criteria.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions

- There are systematic processes for evaluating solutions with respect to how well they meet the criteria and constraints of a problem.

Crosscutting Concepts

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Identifying the given design solution and associated claims and evidence		
	a	Students identify the given supported design solution.	
	b	Students identify scientific knowledge related to the problem and each proposed solution.	
	c	Students identify how each solution would solve the problem.	
2	Identifying additional evidence		
	a	Students identify and describe* additional evidence necessary for their evaluation, including:	
		i.	Knowledge of how similar problems have been solved in the past.
		ii.	Evidence of possible societal and environmental impacts of each proposed solution.
	b	Students collaboratively define and describe* criteria and constraints for the evaluation of the design solution.	
3	Evaluating and critiquing evidence		
	a	Students use a systematic method (e.g., a decision matrix) to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each solution. In their evaluation, students:	
		i.	Evaluate each solution against each criterion and constraint.
		ii.	Compare solutions based on the results of their performance against the defined criteria and constraints.
	b	Students use the evidence and reasoning to make a claim about the relative effectiveness of each proposed solution based on the strengths and weaknesses of each.	

MS-ETS1-3 Engineering Design

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ETS1-3. Analyze data from tests to determine similarities and differences among several design solutions to identify the best characteristics of each that can be combined into a new solution to better meet the criteria for success.

Science and Engineering Practices

Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Investigations produce data that must be analyzed in order to derive meaning. Because data patterns and trends are not always obvious, scientists and engineers use a range of tools to identify the significant features in the data. They identify sources of error in the investigations and calculate the degree of certainty in the results. Advances in science and engineering makes analysis of proposed solutions more efficient and effective. They analyze their results by continually asking themselves questions; possible questions may be, but are not limited to: “Does this make sense?” "Could my results be duplicated?" and/or “Does the design solve the problem with the given constraints?”

Analyzing data in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to extending quantitative analysis to investigations, distinguishing between correlation and causation, and basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis.

- Analyze and interpret data to determine similarities and differences in findings.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions

- There are systematic processes for evaluating solutions with respect to how well they meet the criteria and constraints of a problem.
- Sometimes parts of different solutions can be combined to create a solution that is better than any of its predecessors.

ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution

- Although one design may not perform the best across all tests, identifying the characteristics of the design that performed the best in each test can provide useful information for the redesign process—that is, some of those characteristics may be incorporated into the new design.

Crosscutting Concepts

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:		
1	Organizing data	
	a	Students organize given data (e.g., via tables, charts, or graphs) from tests intended to determine the effectiveness of three or more alternative solutions to a problem.
2	Identifying relationships	
	a	Students use appropriate analysis techniques (e.g., qualitative or quantitative analysis; basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis) to analyze the data and identify relationships within the datasets, including relationships between the design solutions and the given criteria and constraints.
3	Interpreting data	
	a	Students use the analyzed data to identify evidence of similarities and differences in features of the solutions.
	b	Based on the analyzed data, students make a claim for which characteristics of each design best meet the given criteria and constraints.
	c	Students use the analyzed data to identify the best features in each design that can be compiled into a new (improved) redesigned solution.

MS-ETS1-4 Engineering Design

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

MS-ETS1-4. Develop a model to generate data for iterative testing and modification of a proposed object, tool, or process such that an optimal design can be achieved.

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Developing and Using Models A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models. Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems. • Develop a model to generate data to test ideas about designed systems, including those representing inputs and outputs.	**ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions** • A solution needs to be tested, and then modified on the basis of the test results, in order to improve it. • Models of all kinds are important for testing solutions. **ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution** • The iterative process of testing the most promising solutions and modifying what is proposed on the basis of the test results leads to greater refinement and ultimately to an optimal solution.	

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:			
1	Components of the model		
	a	Students develop a model in which they identify the components relevant to testing ideas about the designed system, including:	
		i.	The given problem being solved, including criteria and constraints.
		ii.	The components of the given proposed solution (e.g., object, tools, or process), including inputs and outputs of the designed system.
2	Relationships		
	a	Students identify and describe* the relationships between components, including:	
		i.	The relationships between each component of the proposed solution and the functionality of the solution.
		ii.	The relationship between the problem being solved and the proposed solution.
		iii.	The relationship between each of the components of the given proposed solution and the problem being solved.
		iv.	The relationship between the data generated by the model and the functioning of the proposed solution.
3	Connections		
	a	Students use the model to generate data representing the functioning of the given proposed solution and each of its iterations as components of the model are modified.	
	b	Students identify the limitations of the model with regards to representing the proposed solution.	

	c	Students describe* how the data generated by the model, along with criteria and constraints that the proposed solution must meet, can be used to optimize the design solution through iterative testing and modification.